



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Kettleman Lane Traffic Safety Improvements

MEETING DATE: January 20, 1999

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council receive public input and give staff direction on safety improvements for Kettleman Lane.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Public Works Department has received several requests to make safety improvements to Kettleman Lane fronting the Vineyard Shopping Center. The purpose of this communication is to report to Council the status of plans for Kettleman Lane as well as seek Council direction. The following report addresses the existing conditions, current plans/programs, interim improvement options, long-term improvements, and recommendations.

Existing Conditions

Based on Caltrans 1997 Traffic Volumes on California State Highways, Kettleman Lane carries between 10,800 to 26,500 vehicles per day (vpd). The highest traffic volumes occur at Hutchins Street. Traffic volumes at the west end, near Lower Sacramento Road, are 10,800 vpd and the east end, near Cherokee Lane, are 18,900 vpd.

The posted speeds on Kettleman Lane are 40 mph from the west city limits to the Woodbridge Irrigation Canal (WID), and 35 mph from the WID to Highway 99.

For a three-year period, between July 1995 through June 1998, Caltrans has indicated the actual accident rate along Kettleman Lane (Lower Sacramento Road to Highway 99) is 6.48 accidents per million-vehicle-miles and similar facilities statewide have a rate of 3.02 accidents per million-vehicle-miles. Based on the city's pin map for a 5-year period, there have been a total of 111 collisions between Fairmont Avenue and 100 feet west of Hutchins Street in that same time period.

Current Plans/Programs

- Lodi Police Department – Enforcement Currently, the Lodi Police Department is providing enhanced enforcement on Kettleman Lane to reduce the high number of speed and right-of-way violations. The Police Department has indicated they issued approximately 90 citations on Kettleman Lane during an enhanced enforcement day in December 1998. During these enforcement days, all motor officers concentrate their efforts to reduce certain types of collisions.
- California Highway Patrol (CHP), Highway 12 Safety Task Force and Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Grant In October 1998, the CHP established a task force to identify and address traffic safety issues on State Route 12, between Interstate 80 and State Route 88 in San Joaquin County. This project is funded through a grant issued to the CHP by the OTS. CHP is working with the Lodi Police Department on a contract (\$19,232) for additional enhanced enforcement and equipment using the OTS funds. The Police Department will be bringing this item to Council in the near future.

APPROVED:

H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

- Hazard Elimination and Safety (HES) Program Project In May 1998, the Public Works staff requested funds from Caltrans for raised medians on Kettleman Lane, between Fairmont Avenue and Hutchins Street, and a signal at Kettleman Lane and Crescent Avenue. Staff has been told informally that funding for this project is earmarked for the 2000/2001 cycle. The HES Program provides funds for safety improvements on all public roads and highways. The funds serve to eliminate or reduce the number and severity of traffic accidents at hazardous highway locations. The total estimated cost of this project is \$220,000. Caltrans has indicated the raised median would need to extend from Ham Lane to Hutchins Street since both intersections are signalized. Additional left-turn "in only" openings in the raised median could be considered with a detailed operating analysis.
- Vineyard Shopping Center Notification about Signal at Crescent Avenue In April 1998, staff sent a letter and sketch, as shown in Exhibit A, to all the shopping center property owners requesting comments on a possible new signalized access at the Crescent Avenue intersection. Staff suggested a meeting to discuss timing and possible cost sharing for this project. Staff received little response from the property owners.
- San Joaquin County Council of Governments (SJCOG), Route 12 in San Joaquin County Corridor Study In February 1995, SJCOG undertook the Route 12 Corridor Study. The purpose of this study was to examine traffic and travel conditions on Route 12 from the Sacramento County line to the Calaveras County line, and identify and prioritize long-range improvement alternatives. An oversight committee was formed with representatives from Caltrans, San Joaquin County, City of Lodi Public Works, Highway 12 Association, and SJCOG staff. The study was completed in June 1997 and recommended Highway 12, from the west city limits to Route 99, be widened and restriped to six lanes and a signal be installed between Ham Lane and Hutchins Street. This project was in the Priority A category which contains projects in need of improvements by year 2010.

Interim Improvement Options

Since Kettleman Lane is a State Highway, Caltrans is owner and operator of this facility. Staff has been working with Caltrans on several issues regarding Kettleman Lane for years. Recently, staff arranged to meet with Caltrans District 10 Deputy Director and Safety Engineer to discuss ultimate and interim safety improvements. Due to the high accident rate, Caltrans is willing to make safety improvements; however, since these will reduce existing access, Caltrans requested the City hold a meeting to receive public comment. The interim improvements, listed below, can be installed immediately.

Option 1 Painted Median between Ham Lane and Hutchins Street

This option would restrict all the left-turning movements entering and exiting the driveways and can be installed early this year. This would eliminate left-versus-through collisions at all Vineyard Shopping Center driveways as well as at the Beckman Ranch Shopping Center and other driveways on the north side. A variation of this option is to allow left turns in (but not out) of the shopping centers at one or more driveways.

The disadvantage is that all exiting traffic will be restricted to right-turn movements which will increase traffic on adjacent streets. However, since the median is not raised, increased enforcement will be necessary to prohibit motorists from making illegal turning movements over the painted median.

Option 2 Install No-Parking Restrictions on the South Side from Fairmont Avenue to Hutchins Street

This option can be done immediately to improve visibility for motorists exiting the driveways. There are existing no-parking zones adjacent to the driveways which were installed based on safe stopping distances/visibility studies. Any additional no-parking would improve visibility and increase the safe stopping speeds for motorists.

The disadvantage is any vehicle wanting to park on Kettleman Lane and patronize the fast food restaurants or banks will need to use the on-site parking lots. However, in the future, parking on all of Kettleman Lane will likely be removed to accommodate the six lanes.

Long-Term Improvements

The best long-term solution is to install raised medians between Ham Lane and Hutchins Street (and eventually all of Kettleman Lane) and create a new four-legged signalized access at Crescent Avenue and the Vineyard Shopping Center. The City Council can wait until the raised medians and signal are installed or they can direct staff to request Caltrans install interim improvements. At the Council meeting, staff will discuss the variations for openings in the painted median.

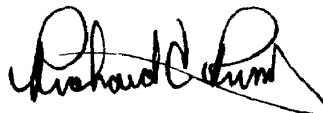
Given the high traffic volumes and collision history, the existing two-way left-turn lane is not functioning well. Some traffic reference materials indicate two-way left-turn lanes work well when traffic volumes are less than 24,000 vpd with few concentrated access points, such as at shopping center driveways. Since Kettleman Lane near Hutchins Street carries over 26,000 vpd, staff recommends Caltrans pursue installing a painted median. This will provide an immediate safety improvement by eliminating the left-versus-through collisions until the signal and raised median can be installed. Adjacent roadways will experience additional traffic temporarily until ultimate improvements can be constructed. Since left turns will be restricted, this will also encourage the shopping center property owners to cooperate with the City on designing and financing the new shopping center access opposite Crescent Avenue. However, the signal and raised median project should proceed with or without the new access. Staff will continue to work with the shopping center property owners and proceed with plans to install the raised medians and signal. Staff has also requested Caltrans move the raised median and signal project to an earlier year. It would be helpful if the Council formally made this request.

Recommendations

Staff recommends that Council take the following actions:

- Request that Caltrans install a painted median at the appropriate locations on Kettleman Lane, allowing left turns "in only" where practical.
- Approve no-parking zones on the south side of Kettleman Lane between Ham Lane and Hutchins Street.
- Request that Caltrans provide funding for the Crescent Avenue signal/median project as soon as possible.

FUNDING: Not applicable at this time.



Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

Prepared by Paula J. Fernandez, Associate Traffic Engineer
RCP/PJF/lm
Attachment

cc: Police Chief
Caltrans District 10 Deputy Director
Caltrans Planning District Division Chief
CHP Highway 12 Task Force Coordinator
Highway 12 Association President
SJCOG, Diane Nguyen
Property Owners mailing list (Ham Lane to Hutchins Street, both sides)
Interested Parties mailing list

CITY COUNCIL

JACK A. SIEGLOCK, Mayor
KEITH LAND
Mayor Pro Tempore
ROBERT J. JOHNSON
STEPHEN J. MANN
PHILLIP A. PENNINO

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
P.O. BOX 3006
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910
(209) 333-6706
FAX (209) 333-6710

EXHIBIT A

H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

April 7, 1998

New Generation Trading Company
P.O. Box 2189
Saratoga, CA 95070

Bank of America - Northern Region
Attn: Ron Davis, Vice President
10850 White Rock Road, Suite 102
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Charlie Martin, Property Manager
22301 Foothill Boulevard
Hayward, CA 94541-2771

Alan Sandiforth, Facility Property Administrator
22301 Foothill Boulevard
Hayward, CA 94541-2771

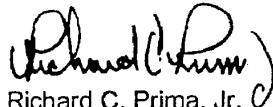
SUBJECT: Proposed Traffic Signal at Kettleman Lane at Crescent Avenue

For many years, the City has had ongoing discussions with Caltrans regarding traffic safety issues at the intersection of Kettleman Lane and Crescent Avenue. For your information, from 1994 to 1997 there have been 23 collisions at the Vineyard Shopping Center driveway and the adjacent portions of Kettleman Lane. In response to the City's concerns, Caltrans has indicated that a traffic signal is the best solution.

We concur and have prepared a preliminary intersection design. We feel that the best design would include creating a new four-way signalized intersection into the Vineyard Shopping Center at Crescent Avenue. The signalized intersection would include protected turn phases (left turn arrows), street lighting, pedestrian signals and push buttons, as well as wheelchair ramps. The preliminary intersection layout is shown on the enclosed aerial photo. With the creation of the new major entrance to the Vineyard Shopping Center, the two existing Kettleman Lane driveways would be limited to right turns only.

The new signalized intersection would be beneficial to the Vineyard Shopping Center customers, as well as the Kettleman Lane motorists. We would like to receive your comments on the project and discuss timing and possible cost sharing. If desired, we can arrange a group meeting including others you deem appropriate. We will also need to learn your property and management arrangements, so that, in the future, any necessary agreements can be made with the appropriate party.

Please contact Bob Murdoch, City Engineer, or me at your convenience to discuss the project. We can be reached at (209) 333-6706. Thank you for your help in this important project.



Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

Enclosure

cc: City Manager
City Engineer
Associate Traffic Engineer
Bank of America - Lodi Branch Manager

LPropOwners1

CITY COUNCIL

KEITH LAND, Mayor
STEPHEN J. MANN
Mayor Pro Tempore
SUSAN HITCHCOCK
ALAN S. NAKANISHI
PHILLIP A. PENNINO

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
P.O. BOX 3006
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910
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January 14, 1999

H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

Property Owners and Interested Parties - mailing list attached

SUBJECT: Kettleman Lane Traffic Safety Improvements

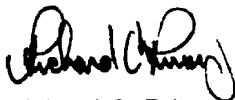
Enclosed is a copy of the staff report concerning Kettleman Lane fronting your property/business, an item on the City Council agenda of Wednesday, January 20, 1999. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, Carnegie Forum, 305 West Pine Street.

This item is on the regular calendar for Council discussion. You are welcome to attend.

If you wish to write to the City Council, please address your letter to City Council, City of Lodi, P. O. Box 3006, Lodi, California, 95241-1910. Be sure to allow time for the mail. Or, you may hand-deliver the letter to City Hall, 221 West Pine Street.

If you wish to address the Council at the Council Meeting, be sure to fill out a speaker's card (available at the Carnegie Forum immediately prior to the start of the meeting) and give it to the City Clerk. If you have any questions about communicating with the Council, please contact Alice Reimche, City Clerk, at (209) 333-6702.

If you have any questions about the item itself, please call Paula Fernandez, Associate Traffic Engineer, at (209) 333-6800, ext. 667.



Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

RCP/lm

Enclosure

cc: City Clerk
Caltrans District 10 Deputy Director
Caltrans Planning District Division Chief
CHP Highway 12 Task Force Coordinator
Highway 12 Association President
SJCOG, Diane Nguyen

NCTRCSFTYIMPS

JAMES R MANASSERO ET AL
P O BOX 4349
ANAHEIM CA 92803

MOKEE ASSOCIATES PTP
50 MOUNDS RD #414
SAN MATEO CA 94402

CHARLES & A FRY TRS
5415 ALHAMBRA VALLEY
MARTINEZ CA 94553

BC RE INVESTMENTS INC
14103 DENVER WEST PARKWAY
GOLDEN CO 80401

MINER JOAQUIN BLDG CORP
P O BOX 1110
STOCKTON CA 95201

AL SHAMMAS & DOUMIT PTP
3754 J ST
SACRAMENTO CA 95816

LONGS DRUG STORES CAL INC
P O BOX 211507
BEDFORD TX 76095

MANUELA T PESCADOR
515 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95240

ROGER & BARBARA VICE
2738 STONEY CREEK CR
ACAMPO CA 95220

ROSE ZIMMERMAN ET AL
P O BOX 3600
QUINCY CA 95971

H & C INVESTMENTS PTP
1029 S CHURCH ST
LODI CA 95240

ATLANTIC RICHFIELD CO
P O BOX 2485
LOS ANGELES CA 90051

CANTON & MARTIN INVESTMENTS
1029 S CHURCH ST
LODI CA 95240

RICHARD & CAROLYNE KASHNER
605 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95240

LEE E & K CANNON
609 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95240

ROSE WILLIAMS
623 S CHEROKEE LN
LODI CA 95240

DEAN A & JUANITA M BENNETT
713 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95240

ROMEO D TABIJE TR ET AL
P O BOX 1267
SUISUN CA 94585

ELLEN LEE TR
1511 W TOKAY ST
LODI CA 95242

MAURICE R & DOROTHY M BAILEY
5499 E HARNEY LN
LODI CA 95240

LEON & BERNICE WAHLER
8233 SAN PABLO
STOCKTON CA 95209

969 E STREET ASSOCIATES
P O BOX 1570
LODI CA 95241

STEVE & NANCY WIDHALM
15521 DAVIS RD
LODI CA 95242

CALIF STATE AUTO ASSN
100 VAN NESS AVE
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102

BRYAN C & SHARON JENNINGS TR
5320 CARRINGTON CR
STOCKTON CA 95210

HIGHWAY 12 ASSN PRES
MR KEN JEFFERS
2145 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95242

MS DINAH BORTNER DPTY DIR
CALTRANS DISTRICT 10
P O BOX 2048
STOCKTON CA 95201

DANA COWELL DIVISION CHIEF
CALTRANS PLANNING DISTRICT
P O BOX 2048
STOCKTON CA 95201

ALICE HUFFAKER COORDINATOR
CHP HWY 12 TASK FORCE
2555 FIRST AVE
SACRAMENTO CA 95818

DIANE NGUYEN
SJ CO COUNCIL OF GOVTS
6 S EL DORADO ST 4TH FLR
STOCKTON CA 95202

AM PM MINI MART
ATTN MANAGER
510 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95240

AVIX CO
VIC HEINRICH
19378 ROSEWOOD WY
WOODBIDGE CA 95258

STERLING MANAGEMENT CO
ATTN JENNIFER PORTER
1420 W KETTLEMAN LN STE H
LODI CA 95242

MR ROBERT MATTHEIS
800 S HUTCHINS ST
LODI CA 95240

MR NATHAN STRAUB
308 E MISSION ST
LODI CA 95240

MR NORM HYSKE
924 S CRESCENT AVE
LODI CA 95240

MS SONDRAGOODER
1329 S CRESCENT AVE
LODI CA 95240

MS NATALIE REYES
2412 W ELM ST
LODI CA 95242

MS MARY KAY MEYER
805 S ROSE ST
LODI CA 95240

FRANCES JOLLY
1325 S HUTCHINS ST
LODI CA 95240

MR MIKE FURNISH
1736 S CHURCH ST
LODI CA 95240

MS BONNIE MAUCH
512 S ROSE ST
LODI CA 95240

MS ALFRED JOACHIM
609 RIMBY
LODI CA 95240

MR TIM WISE
1706 ROBERT ST
LODI CA 95242

MS DORTHY SWOVERLAND
810 W CARDINAL ST
LODI CA 95240

MS CARLA CICERELLO
744 S CRESCENT AVE
LODI CA 95240

MR LEON WAHLER
811 W KETTLEMAN LN
LODI CA 95240

JACQUE SUTPHIN
321 E CENTURY BLVD
LODI CA 95240

MR BRIAN SCHNEIDER
1648 TIMBERLAKE CR
LODI CA 95242

MR STAN HARKNESS
700 W CARDINAL ST
LODI CA 95240

NEW GENERATION TRADING CO
P O BOX 2189
SARATOGA CA 95070

BANK OF AMERICA - CORP RE
ATTN KIRSTEN LAUGHLIN
1 S VAN NESS AVE 6TH FLR
DEPT 13-786
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94103

MR CHARLIE MARTIN
PROPERTY MGR
22301 FOOTHILL BLVD
HAYWARD CA 94541-2771

MR TOM HANSON MGR
REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
MERVYN'S STORE BLDG SRVCS
22301 FOOTHILL BLVD
HAYWARD CA 94541-2771

MINNEAPOLIS RETIREMENT FUND
730 2ND AVE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402

DAVID J SACA ET AL
77 CADILLAC DR #210
SACRAMENTO CA 95825

STKN SAVINGS & LOAN ASSN
501 W WEBER AVE
STOCKTON CA 95203

FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK
P O BOX 3000
LODI CA 95241

BANK OF AMERICA NT & SA
P O BOX 37000
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94137

MERVYN'S CORP
777 NICOLLET MALL
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402

January 20, 1999

City Council
City of Lodi
P. O. Box 3006
Lodi, CA 95241-1910

RECEIVED
02 JAN 20 PM 3:47
CITY CLERK
CITY OF LODI

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Thanks for sending me the notice of the Kettleman Lane Traffic Safety Improvements agenda item. Unfortunately, I cannot attend due to a prior commitment.

I am very pleased to note that this subject has been addressed and that it has been a matter of long standing concern to city officials. My hope is that something will be done immediately to provide at least an interim solution to the many hazards that exist on Kettleman Lane.

I am not a professional and therefore I don't feel qualified to make specific recommendations. I am certain those who are trained in traffic control are far better able to decide what can be done. So far, however, some of the suggestions I have seen make a lot of sense. Parking should be restricted along that stretch because the point is well taken that even making right turns out of the shopping centers can be difficult with vehicles blocking the view. It would seem that the immediate steps could be to eliminate the parking and allow right turns only at the exits of the shopping centers and at Crescent Ave.

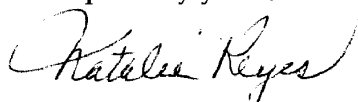
There is another place where an accident is waiting to happen as well. The intersection of Lower Sacramento Road and Kettleman Lane is very dangerous. A "No Right Turn on Red" sign on the southeast corner of that intersection is badly needed. Vehicles traveling south on Lower Sacramento Road and turning left onto Kettleman Lane are constantly in danger of being struck by vehicles making a right turn on the red light. Many of the southbound vehicles making that left turn are trying to get into the right lane to turn into the Walmart shopping center and are cut off by vehicles zooming up on their right.

One last suggestion I would like to make is to move parking back from all intersections so drivers can get a clear view, whether they are crossing or turning. This is particularly necessary on unmarked intersections.

I sincerely hope that the changes you decide on will be made promptly to make our streets safer for all.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully yours,



Natalie Reyes
2412 West Elm Street
Lodi, CA 95242-2827
Phone: 333-6290

City Council Members,

Please consider and allow the red curbs (no parking) on Kettleman lane between Lower Sacramento road and Cherokee lane.

The reasons are many. No. one is safety. They are obstructing the view of traffic, obstructing road signs (view) and traffic signals, and also they make the bike lane a complete suicide lan. You would have to have a death wish to use this lane. Believe me I know, I ride a bike. So lets paint the curbs red and move the bike lane to the curb where it belongs.

Trucks do not belong (parked) on city streets. They belong in truck lots (yards), truck stops or if need be in the industrial part of town where they will not be a road hazard or an eye sore. (east of 99 Beckman rd. area.)

I feel it is not up to the city of Lodi to find parking places for this heavy equipment. Other cities all over the U.S.A. chase them off of residential and business streets into the industrial area or out of town.

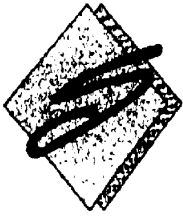
Most of this Equipment is not only from out of town but a lot of them are from out of state. The city of Lodi is clearly being taken advantage of.

I have enclosed some photos that I hope might convince you of our problem.

Thank You,
A concerned Citizen,
Mike Furnish
1736 So. Church st.
Lodi, Ca. 95240

Mike Furnish

RECEIVED
CITY OF LODI
JAN 20 1999



Sterling
MANAGEMENT COMPANY

January 19, 1999

Paula Fernandez
Associate Traffic Engineer
City of Lodi
City Hall
221 W. Pine Street
Lodi, California

Via Facsimile:
(209) 333-6710

RE: Kettleman Lane Traffic Safety Improvements

Dear Paula:

As Commercial Property Manager for Phase I of the Vineyard Shopping Center located on Kettleman Lane (708 - 882 W. Kettleman), as well as Wine Country Plaza located at 1420 W. Kettleman Lane, I am in receipt of your letter of January 14, 1999 regarding the proposed safety improvements to Kettleman Lane which will be up for discussion Wednesday, January 20th at the City Council Meeting.

I have spoken with the majority of the tenants who rent from my Landlord, as well as to some of the neighboring tenants, all of whom are conscientiously interested in enhancing the safety along Kettleman Lane. At the Vineyard Shopping Center, as well as at Wine Country Plaza, we have definitely found the safety of our customers and tenants entering and leaving the shopping centers has been jeopardized by cars, and more specifically large trucks parking along the south side of Kettleman Lane, thereby reducing the visibility of on-coming traffic. We are very much in favor of restricting all parking in this area. To date, some of the curb has been painted "red", but it has not proved to be sufficient for safe ingress and egress.

We also look very favorably upon enhanced enforcement to eliminate excessive speed of motorists along Kettleman Lane.

We would hope that by the enforcement of the above two (2) items that the safety of Kettleman Lane will be greatly improved, without having to restrict left-hand turning capabilities to or from the shopping center. This could have a negative economic impact on the businesses within the Center.

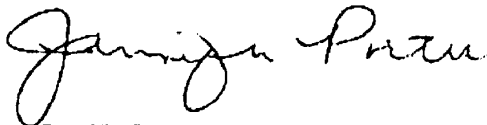
Paula Fernandes
Page 2
January 19, 1999

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views. Again, we are all striving to achieve a safe environment for all, and are more than pleased that we have active participation from the City of Lodi and the City Council to accomplish this.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

STERLING MANAGEMENT COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jennifer Porter".

Jennifer Porter
Property Manager - Vineyard Shopping Center & Wine Country Plaza